

Message Text

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ORIGIN NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 IO-13 ACDA-12
PM-05 DOE-11 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 USIA-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00
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PM/NPP: J NIX
EA/RA: F BENNETT
DOE/ISA: V HUDGINS

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P 062142Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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USIAEA, USEEC

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, IAEA, EC
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SUBJECT: ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF TRANSIT SHIPMENTS OF
STRATEGIC QUANTITIES OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL (SSNM)

1. THE U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) IS CON-
SIDERING THE ADOPTION OF NEW REGULATIONS WHICH WILL REQUIRE
CARRIERS TO PROVIDE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION TO U.S. AUTHORITIES

OF ANY INTERNATIONAL SHIPMENTS OF FORMULA QUANTITIES OF STRATEGIC SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL (SSNM) WHICH TRANSIT U.S. TERRITORY (NOT INCLUDING OVERFLIGHTS) ENROUTE TO A THIRD COUNTRY. SSNM IS DEFINED AS URANIUM-235 (CONTAINED IN URANIUM HIGHLY ENRICHED TO 20 PERCENT OR MORE IN U-235), URANIUM-233, OR PLUTONIUM. GENERALLY SPEAKING, A FORMULA QUANTITY OF SSNM MEANS MORE THAN 5 KILOGRAMS OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM OR MORE THAN 2 KILOGRAMS OF PU OR U-233. TECHNICALLY, A FORMULA QUANTITY OF SSNM IS DEFINED AS 5,000 GRAMS OR MORE COMPUTED BY THE FORMULA: TOTAL GRAMS OF CONTAINED URANIUM-235 PLUS 2.5 TIMES THE NUMBER OF GRAMS OF URANIUM-233 PLUS 2.5 TIMES THE NUMBER OF GRAMS OF PLUTONIUM.

2. THE PROPOSED NEW REGULATIONS WOULD BE INTENDED TO PROVIDE A MEANS TO ASSURE THAT FORMULA QUANTITIES OF SSNM TRANSITING THE U.S. ARE ACCORDED ADEQUATE PHYSICAL SECURITY PROTECTION. THE REGULATIONS WOULD ALSO BE

INTENDED TO IMPLEMENT THE ADVANCE COORDINATION MEASURES RECOMMENDED IN PARAGRAPH 6.2.11.1 OF IAEA PUBLICATION INFCIRC/225.

3. THE POSSIBLE MECHANISMS FOR ACHIEVING THE LEVEL OF SECURITY REQUIRED BY U.S. DOMESTIC REGULATIONS FOR TRANSIT SHIPMENTS HAS NOT YET BEEN DECIDED AND MAY BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS DEPENDING ON THE STOPOVER DURATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE PLANE OR SHIP (OR OF TRANSHIPMENT ARRANGEMENTS). IF SCHEDULED STOPOVERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE FREQUENT, ONE WAY WOULD BE FOR THE FOREIGN SHIPPER TO ENGAGE AN AGENT IN THE U.S. WITH A PHYSICAL SECURITY PLAN APPROVED BY THE U.S. NRC. HOWEVER, OTHER APPROACHES WOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED.

4. ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THE PROPOSED ADVANCE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT TO THE ATTENTION OF APPROPRIATE FOREIGN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. PRIOR TO PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS, NOW PLANNED FOR MID 1978, WE WOULD BE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN RECEIVING ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE ON THE MOST APPROPRIATE MEANS TO ACHIEVE THE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.

5. THE NRC DESIRES TO IMPLEMENT THESE RULES WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE AND INCONVENIENCE TO THE SHIPPER AND CARRIER CONSISTENT WITH THE APPLICATION OF ADEQUATE PHYSICAL SECURITY. IN ORDER TO AFFORD ALL POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION IN THIS REGARD, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ADDRESSEE POSTS WOULD REQUEST APPROPRIATE FOREIGN OFFICIALS TO PROVIDE POST WITH ANY READILY AVAILABLE REPEAT READILY

AVAILABLE DATA ON THE NUMBER AND SCOPE OF PAST SSNM SHIP-
MENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN EXPORTED FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE
COUNTRIES, AND WHICH TRANSITED THE U.S. (NOT INCLUDING
OVERFLIGHTS), PRIOR TO ARRIVAL AT THE COUNTRY OF ULTIMATE
DESTINATION. ADDITIONALLY, ANY READILY AVAILABLE
PROJECTIONS ON THE NUMBER AND SCOPE OF PROSPECTIVE SHIP-
MENTS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO TRANSIT THE U.S. WOULD BE
HELPFUL. ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED REPORT ANY DATA
RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF THIS INQUIRY, OR INDICATION OF
RESPONSE BY FOREIGN OFFICIAL(S), BY TELEGRAM SLUGGED FOR
ATTENTION OF NRC. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, US, IAEA, EEC
To: BONN BRUSSELS MULTIPLE
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vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/048b01e6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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